

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 01/15/2010 has been entered.

Current Status

Claims 1, 3, 5-13, 16-19 and 32-53 are pending in the application.

Priority

Applicants' claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) is acknowledged.

This application is a 371 of PCT/CA04/02130 12/15/2004

which claims benefit of 60/529,084 12/15/2003.

Allowed Claims

Claims 1, 3, 5-13, 16-19 and 32-53 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Reason For Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: A search of the prior art failed to uncover any reference that anticipates or renders obvious a process for the hydrogenation and/or asymmetric hydrogenation of an imine; wherein all the variables are as defined in the claims.

Claims 1, 3, 5-13, 16-19 and 32-53 are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chukwuma O. Nwaonicha whose telephone number is 571-272-2908. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday, 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel Sullivan can be reached on 571-272-0779. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Chukwuma O. Nwaonicha/
Examiner, Art Unit 1621

/Jafar Parsa/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1621